



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

division of a great department of the law. And yet it cannot fail to be of value to both the student and the practitioner as a most complete and careful commentary of its kind. The work in itself is worthy of great praise; it is written in clear and convincing English, and is decidedly exhaustive, citing, as the preface sets forth, "every reported decision on the subject wherever the common law prevails." The author criticises with much force and an equal degree of justice, both the fellow-servant rule and the doctrine that a servant may not recover for injuries suffered by reason of the abnormal risks of his employment, as being inequitable. The work's value is greatly enhanced by the fact that the date of the cases cited is given throughout—a thing of very minor importance, perhaps, yet which adds much to the convenience of the student. The remaining volume of the work, which is to be published, will treat of hiring and discharge, compensation, strikes, etc. R. H. S.

Banks and Banking. Volume I of *Case Law and Index*. By Howard Ellis. Case Law Company, New York. 1903. Cases, sheep, pp. 1432; Index, cloth, pp. 207.

The rapidity with which legal precedents are piling up one upon another is frequently adverted to. It is frightening enough to the student about to begin his course in law to enter some law library and, gazing about him on rows and rows of sheep-bound volumes, to be told that this represents but a small portion of the law, and that here in this mass he is to hunt down legal principles hidden away, perhaps, in some dust covered tome centuries old. He may see some busy practitioner hurrying about with his arms full of books with the glow of excitement written on his face as out of breath after the mad chase he has found a case in point, and this he may see change into gloom as the searcher finds that after all his hours of work it is not exactly the case needed. If these precedents seem confusing and voluminous to-day, how reckoning from this present state of affairs will they be a few years from now? Hon. John F. Dillon said before the American Bar Association in 1886: "We find in the English and American law an already unwieldy mass of reports. In twenty years they will number ten thousand volumes; in fifty years, twenty thousand volumes." The present increase in the reports verify this prediction. In the United States we are adding two hundred volumes per annum to our stock, and the increase is approaching a geometrical ratio. The present condition is thus vividly described by Mr. Charles F. Beach: "It reduces common law research and practice to a mere fishing about in pools of muddy water for stray bits of law suspected of being immersed or in solution therein—the pools growing larger and deeper and muddier, and the fishing becoming more difficult and unsatisfactory *die in diem*." To many this means that less regard will have to be paid to precedents, or else our substantive law must be codified in analogy to the *Code Napoleon* and the *Corpus Juris Civilis* of

Justinian. But be this as it may, the case system is with us and with us it is likely to remain for some time. Any method, therefore, that reduces it to a simpler form, and makes it more readily accessible must meet with the hearty approval of the legal profession. Recent years have seen several attempts in this direction of varying degrees of partial success. "Case Law and Index" is the latest, and if the first volume can be taken as an indication of what the entire work will be it will accomplish the object others have aimed at, but not quite hit. "Banks and Banking" is its title; in its 1432 pages it contains every decision on the subject handed down by the appellate courts of all the States from Alabama to Wyoming. Accompanying this is a supplementary index of 207 pages. This is simple yet comprehensive enough to cover each minute point so that in looking up the case we find it covers the exact thing we are looking for. The cases are condensed in a novel manner. The way the question arose together with the facts is briefly stated, then follows in numerical order the principles invoked, with the name of the judge writing the opinion. At the end there is a list of cases in which the principal case has been cited in that jurisdiction. It will be seen that it is not like the ordinary digest in that the whole case is given in an epitomised form, instead of merely a portion relating to a particular point. It renders the task of getting at the meat of the right case an easy one. In addition to this we feel confident in the result arrived at, for the work is being done under a system of reporting and sub-editing that insures accuracy. The index statements are made by the editors themselves, all jurists of prominence. James DeWitt Andrews, Chairman of the Committee on the Classification of the Law in the American Bar Association, is the chairman of this board.

The editors announce that the entire work will cover 60 volumes. These will include the United States decisions, the State decisions, arranged under subject heads as the one on "Banks and Banking," and the English cases. We wish them continued success in their vast undertaking, for its accomplishment means for the law that which is to be desired above everything else—more symmetry and simplicity.

J. H. S.